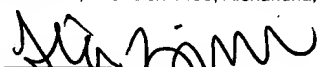




I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service as Express Mail, Airbill No. EV 332780221 US, in an envelope addressed to: MS AF, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the date shown below.

Dated: MARCH 11, 2004

Signature:


(Tia B. Zimmerman)

Docket No.: 300622003111

Client Ref No. 010011.07

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:
Bryan JULIEN et al.

Application No.: 09/724,889

Art Unit: 1652

Filed: November 28, 2000

Examiner: N. Nashed

For: RECOMBINANT METHODS AND
MATERIALS FOR PRODUCING
EPOTHILONE AND EPOTHILONE
DERIVATIVES

**AFTER FINAL
EXPEDITED PROCEDURE**

AMENDMENT AFTER FINAL ACTION (37 C.F.R. SECTION 1.116)

MS AF
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS

This is in response to the final Office Action dated January 12, 2004, (Paper No. 010504), for which a response is due on April 12, 2004. This response is filed within two months of the issuance of the final Office Action and therefore qualifies for expedited review. Reconsideration and allowance of the pending claims, as amended, in light of the remarks presented herein are respectfully requested.